

4-12-2007

Observer

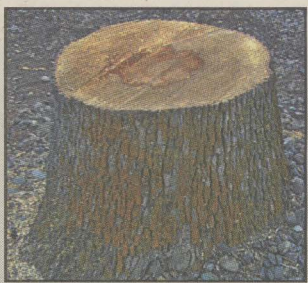
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aging trees
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The Central Washington University

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April 12, 2007 - volume 80 number 19

Few choices for next year's ASCWU/BOD

by Chelsea Evans
Asst. News editor

Election candidacy for this year's Associated Students of Central Washington University Board of Directors (ASCWU/BOD) is the lowest ever, according to current ASCWU/BOD President Jadon Berry.

Berry was surprised by the low number of applicants despite the number of hours that were put into publicizing the upcoming elections.

"We started a week before spring break and worked with the publicity center, took out ads, video-net ads and posters in each residence and academic hall," Berry said. "It really is a huge process; it takes a lot of work to organize elections."

Each year, the ASCWU/BOD has an election to fill leadership offices. This year, of the seven positions available, only one position—vice president for equity and community service—has two competing candidates. The position of Executive Vice President remains empty. The remaining five positions will be noted as default wins, as long as each candidate receives at least one ballot vote.

Amendments were also made to the candidate election packets to further assist publicity for the election openings. Berry said changes were made to create a better awareness to the student body of the upcoming elections and its candidates.

"More people [voting] makes our elections more legitimate, which give us more power with the administration," Berry said.

Some changes have been made to election requirements, which may account for the lack of competition.

Applicants had to gather 500 signatures from students, which is up from the 200 required last year, before turning in their final packets last Wednesday.

Candidates this year are also able to utilize up to \$400 for their election campaigns instead of the former \$200 cap.

Still, Berry was reluctant to blame the numbers increases for the lack of turnout among potential ASCWU/BOD candidates.

"We had a really strong group this last year, so there are no big public issues," Berry said. "People are more inclined to get involved when there are public problems."

SEE **ELECTIONS** PAGE 2

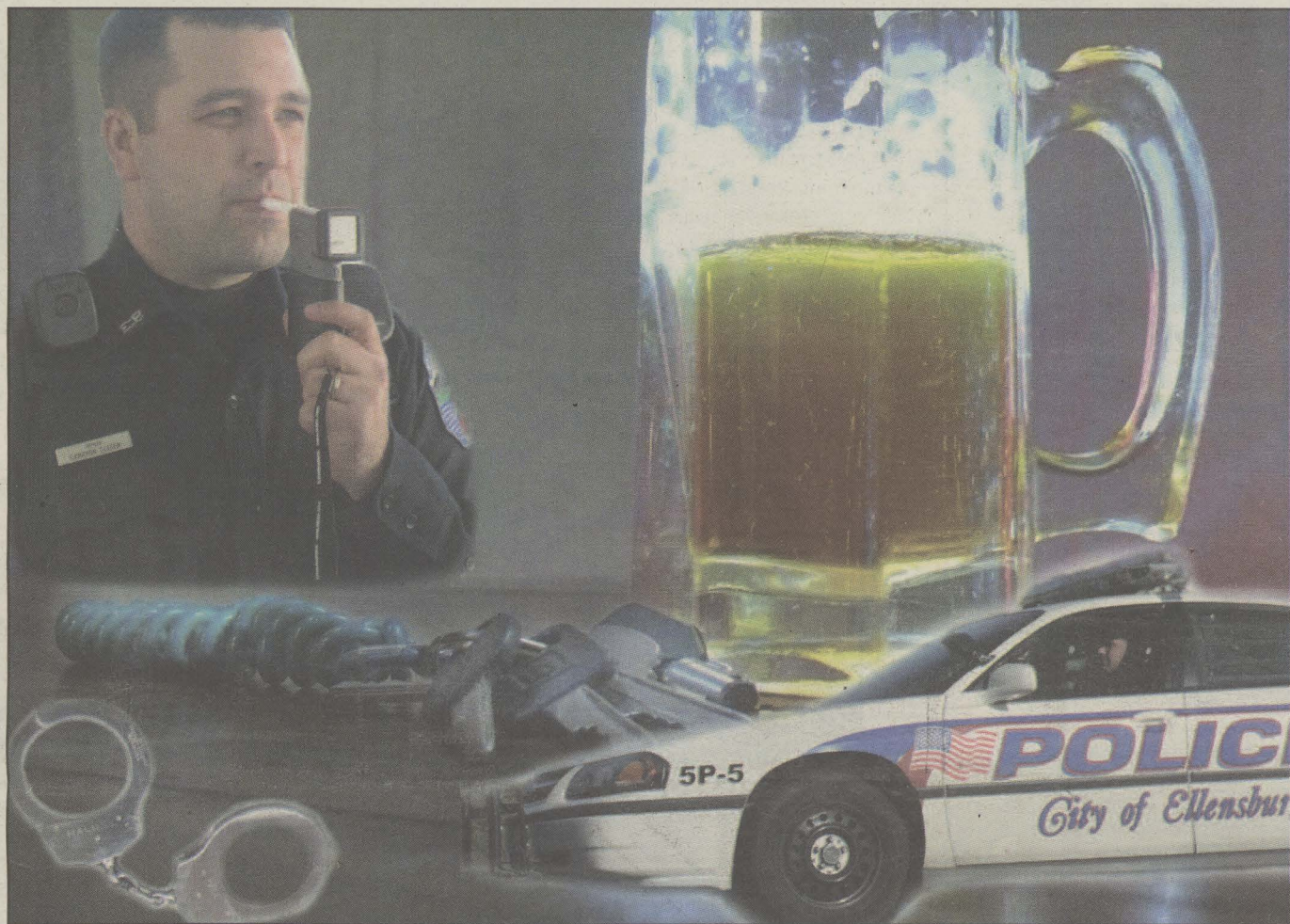


Photo illustration by Maggie Schmidt/Observer

The Ellensburg Police Department works to enforce underage drinking and drunk driving laws year round. A grant given to the Kittitas County Sheriff's Department will put more officers on patrol during warmer times of the year when drinking increases.

Local cops increase DUI patrols

by Gabe Wagner
Staff reporter

Spring weather is here, and with it comes an increase in DUI and MIP enforcement by the Kittitas County Sheriff's Department.

The Kittitas County Public Health and Safety Network received a three-year grant last September to help prevent underage drinking and drunk driving during warmer months.

"The City of Ellensburg Police Department, Central Washington University Police Department, Kittitas County Sheriff and the Washington State Police are working together to stop underage drinking," said Jessica Roe, Kittitas County community public health and safety network coordinator.

The Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Grant was put into action in the fall of 2006. The grant allows law enforcement officials to raise underage drinking awareness by providing extra patrols and educating the public on the dangers of underage drinking. It also includes a public policy change to keep different penalties being issued for the same crime.

Though most infractions in the county occur in Ellensburg, not all are committed by Central Washington University students.

"It is not always the Central students who are getting in trouble," said Melanie Hopkins, Kittitas County community public health and safety network DUI coordinator.

Figures have shown, however, that warm weather correlates with increased alcohol

infractions. Last year, police issued 20 MIPs and five DUIs in Kittitas County from April 6 to April 8. From Sept. 28, 2006 to Nov. 28, 2006 there were 36 MIPs and 24 DUIs.

The grant also assists the DUI Task Force, which is a key group in the prevention of underage drinking.

The task force is comprised of two members from each law enforcement agency in Kittitas County. This puts an additional eight officers on the streets during times of emphasis, such as high school proms and warmer times of the year when people are more likely to drink.

"Patrols depend upon what day of the week it is," Roe said. "It will not always be on the weekends."

SEE **DRINKING** PAGE 5

Provost's office demands transcripts from some faculty

Bake sale in L&L to help lecturers cover extra costs

by Paul Balcerak
Editor-in-Chief

When all else fails, throw a bake sale. That's the attitude of several Central Washington University non-tenure track [NTT] faculty members who are being forced by the provost's office to resubmit their college transcripts.

"The non-tenure track faculty have been asked to resubmit their transcripts even though [Central's records keepers] already have them," English professor Lila Harper said.

Harper came up with the idea of a bake sale as a tongue-in-cheek way to raise money for professors burdened with costs of obtaining official transcripts. While costs don't run as high as they did prior to the electronic age—one Central professor estimated each transcript to cost around \$10—faculty members are taking issue with the principle of being asked for information

FACULTY BAKE SALE

Where: Ground floor of
the Language and
Literature building

When: Today, 10 a.m. to
noon

they've already turned in.

"Employees should not be paying out of their own pockets to resubmit," Harper said.

Transcripts aren't the only documentation Central professors are being required to hand over. Written "expressions of interest" will be required of faculty members each time they apply to have their contracts renewed.

"The fundamental issue is that they're making us reapply [for our jobs] when they have all the material," history professor Ken Munsell said. "We've done what we're supposed to do."

The mandates came from Central Provost David Soltz in a memorandum dated April 3. The resubmissions are being required as part of the construction of a new electronic hiring pool database.

Currently, department chairs hire faculty drawn from their own hiring pools. The database would allow professors to voice interest in spot-filling for absentees, making it easier for department chairs to find replacements, according to the memo.

SEE **TRANSCRIPTS** PAGE 2

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 produce a newspaper.

ELECTIONS: Lack of controversy speculated as reason for decline in interested candidates in elections.

continued from page 1

In 2004 Central had more candidates in the primary elections than in past elections.

Danielle Martinez, ASCWU's election coordinator, said that year swim and wrestling teams were cut from Central's athletic budget, which was a huge deal for students.

Martinez said this year's low number of candidates reflects the current state of Central's campus.

"I would agree that there has not been a hot topic on the rise for the election stand," Martinez said. "There are not any hot issues in the press or on campus at the magnitude of cutting university sports."

John Drinkwater, advisor for the ASCWU-BOD elections, said in the last twenty years Central has never had an election without three public issues in the forefront. The election, Drinkwater said, does not show a negative outlook on students or the campus.

"We are in a unique and odd year," Drinkwater said. "I think our culture on campus is changing and our students are comfortable with their education and services; we are not a sandbox but an active body at Central."



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William Montgomery III
VP for Student Life and Facilities

TRANSCRIPTS: Change in university policy requires complete academic records from all faculty, costs to faculty may total up to \$3000.

continued from page 1

Faculty members have a different impression of the need for resubmitting their transcripts.

"It sounds as if [Central's records-keepers] may even have lost transcripts that were put on file back when each instructor was hired," English professor Ruthi Erdman said in an e-mail.

Soltz admitted that records-keeping hasn't been as complete as it should be, but stopped short of saying records were lost outright.

Rather, the need for transcript resubmissions was due to the fact that not all transcripts on file were official, he said.

"To be frank, we hadn't monitored that adequately," Soltz said.

Soltz's memo more or less parroted that statement and added that records of student evaluations of instructors and faculty resumes needed to be resubmitted, as well.

"It's a minor issue in terms of time

or economics," Soltz said.

There's still a chance faculty won't have to provide transcripts from all of their collegiate institutions, Soltz said. The provost's office was waiting on confirmation of whether faculty could or could not simply resubmit transcripts of their highest institution Wednesday afternoon.

That decision was not available to The Observer at press time.

As of midday Wednesday, the mandate for resubmissions apply to all NTT faculty members who sign new contracts each academic quarter or each academic year.

Therefore, a professor working under a quarterly contract could be forced to submit a new "expression of interest" to keep his or her job as many as four times in a calendar year.

Even those who have provided their transcripts on multiple occasions and those who know where Central is currently holding their records are being forced to resubmit.

Munsell, for example, is a Central graduate and has been an NTT professor since fall 1991.

"I have to go down to the registrar and pay money to Central to have my transcripts sent to Central," Munsell said. "And they already have them."

Many faculty members aren't clear on why they are being required to resubmit their transcripts at all.

"It's not clear why the administration is doing this, but it's perceived as a threat to our job security," English pro-

Election Calendar:

April 16:

Absentee Ballots available at 2 p.m.

April 24:

4 p.m.- Last day to register as a write-in candidate

April 26:

Election Debate from 6-9 p.m. in SURC theatre.

April 30:

Last day to withdraw from General Election. Absentee Ballots available at 2 p.m.

May 3:

General Election. Online voting begins at midnight.

"It sounds as if [Central's record keepers] may even have lost transcripts that were put on file back when each instructor was hired."

~Ruthi Erdman
English professor

fessor Robert Schnelle said. "It's very disheartening to feel that we have to defend our jobs without knowing why [and] it's definitely a drag on morale."

In the meantime, faculty members in the Language and Literature Building will hope their bake sale can cover costs.

Erdman, a former data collector for Central's National Education Association and American Federation of Teachers chapter, estimated that total costs for all NTT faculty members would be about \$3,000.

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Safety concerns prompt sick tree removal

by Chelsea Krotzer
Asst. News editor

Numerous trees at the Central Washington University campus are being replaced due to age and disease, leaving a scene of stumps and starts.

"These trees are a safety liability for the Central community and need to be addressed in the near future," grounds supervisor Calvin Lang said.

The tree removal project is part of the Campus Tree Plan, developed by the facilities management department.

"New trees are being planted before the old ones are being removed to help with lessening the effect of tree removal," Lang said. "The overall appearance and individual beauty, as well as safety of the Central campus, will be improved."

Central President Jerilyn McIntyre approved the initial funding to create planning documents. Included in the documents was an inventory of campus trees in 2004.

The plan is paid for through the capital improvement project fund.

"The Campus Tree Plan is a shift toward pro-active operational tree management; planting the right trees in the right places in the right ways," said Greg Poe, facilities management department manager. "Trees are an integral part of the university."

The plan is currently comprised of three projects. The first project was completed in March, involving the removal of seven unhealthy trees along University Way and D Street. Red oaks, maples, birch and pagoda trees were planted in their place.

The large elms also located along



LeahHafterson/Observer

The second of three Campus Tree Plan beautification projects occurred in front of Bouillon Hall last week. Nine sycamores were cut down due to a fungal disease called Anthracnose which caused brown lesions to form on the leaves and twigs of the trees. Nine new trees will replace the sycamores.

University Way and D Street will eventually be replaced due to old age.

"The idea behind the tree plan is to ensure that as trees are removed, new ones are put back in place that are compatible with the campus and the environment at Central," Lang said.

The second project includes removing nine diseased sycamores on the

west side of Bouillon Hall. The sycamores were suffering from Anthracnose, a disease caused by fungus that creates brown lesions on the leaves or twigs of the trees.

The sycamores will be replaced with nine Sophora Japonica trees. In the future an additional understory of trees will be planted, including Japanese

spurge, flowering currant and Hostas.

The third project includes planting 200 ponderosa pines on the west side of the Student Village service drive.

"This will create a new wind and visual break and allow for the removal and replacement of the poplar trees along the service drive in six to eight years," Poe said.

Grounds crew work in teams of two to six people, depending on the demands of the project.

"The Tree Plan does take into account diseases and insects that are a problem in the area and we as the grounds department will be working to abate as many of these problems as we can," Lang said.

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Week-long program brings oil awareness

CEC sponsors event to teach habits to lower community oil consumption.

by Tyson Ingalls
Staff reporter

The Civic Engagement Center (CEC) is holding an Oil Awareness Week aimed at decreasing oil consumption.

The week is focused on educating the community in order to develop good habits to lower oil consumption.

Katie Humphries, a sophomore geography major, with the help of volunteers, is organizing the event that will take place from April 16-22.

A wide range of events will include guest speakers, discussion forums and demonstrations of new technology.

"Our mission is to inform individuals about how their personal actions affect their local and global environment," Humphries said.

All week long, informational booths will be located in the SURC.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6 p.m. - Monday April 16 in SURC 107: Guest speaker Gary Nystedt from Energy Services of Ellensburg will speak about the Ellensburg Solar Community Project, an organization that is coordinating to help power the community with sustainable energy.
- 6 p.m. - Tuesday April 17 in SURC 137: Roger Beardsley, assistant professor of mechanical engineering technology, will present a lecture entitled "If biofuels are the answer, what's the question?"
- 6 p.m. - Wednesday April 18 in the SURC Ballroom: Guest speaker Dave Cloud will discuss electric cars and their benefits to the environment.
- 7 p.m. - Thursday April 19 in the SURC Ballroom: A screening of the documentary "Oil on Ice."
- 11 a.m. - Friday April 20 at West Ellensburg Park: A ribbon cutting ceremony will unveil Ellensburg's Solar Community Project.
- 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Saturday April 21: Students will meet in the parking lot on D Street for storm drain stenciling. Students will spray paint messages around storm drains with information on toxic dumping. An informational meeting will take place at 5:15 p.m. on April 19 in the Civic Engagement Center.
- 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Sunday April 22 at West Ellensburg Park: Tours will be available of Ellensburg's Solar Community Project.

Program provides knowledge of human trafficking

by Martinique Haworth
Staff reporter

Fighting Against Sex Trafficking (F.A.S.T.), a new program put on by the Civic Engagement Center (CEC), has started the International Justice Mission Club (IJMC).

IJMC will help raise funds and awareness for fellow organizations that help free people who have been sold into slavery.

Stephanie Oberlander, a member of the IJMC, said they are looking for open dialogue, not arguing, at their meetings.

"We like to call it a think-do tank," Oberlander said. "We are not only talking about ideas to help, but actually putting our ideas into action."

IJMC joined with two other organizations, the CEC and Rescue Thailand, to help fight sex trafficking.

Jake Stillwell, member of the IJMC, said the club's main goal is to break the problem of sex trafficking.

"We know we cannot end slavery on our own, but we can help in the fight by raising awareness and providing these organizations with the bare necessities they need to help these people," Stillwell said.

Rescue Thailand builds orphanages for rescued victims of sexual slavery. Rescue Thailand not only gives victims a safe place to go, but provides them with everyday needs for living. The organization also helps victims get back to a normal schedule, since many have been hooked on drugs.

The IJMC and CEC plan to send trained volunteers such as law enforcers, lawyers and social workers to countries that are suffering from human rights issues.

In 2004 there were more sex slaves trafficked around the world than during four centuries of transatlantic African slave trade, according to the IJMC.

The U.S. State Department's annual report in 2005 reported 600,000 to 800,000 people trafficked across international borders each year. More than 14,500 have been trafficked into the United States.

Human trafficking is the third most profitable criminal activity, following drugs and arms trafficking.

An estimated \$9.5 billion generated in annual revenue from all trafficking activities, with at least \$4 billion attributed to the worldwide brothel industry.

In 1999 alone, according to the IJMC, there was an estimated 20 million people in some form of slavery.

Today that number has grown, with 1.5 million estimated to be children.

For more information on how to donate to or join the IJMC, the first meeting will be at 5 p.m. on Monday, April 16 in the Student Union and Recreation Center, room 135.

Check out The Observer Online for additional stories!

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City

News from around the Ellensburg community

Local farmers' market secures space

by Brian Rowe
Staff reporter

The sun is out, the birds are chirping and the Kittitas County Farmer's Market is breaking new ground.

Among the many items available for purchase are produce, art and novelty items. Buying from the market is a great way to support local farmers and help boost the economy.

Many of the vendors depend on citizens of Ellensburg to make their living, and want to ensure that more students are aware of the market.

The market will be bigger this year compared to last, with 71 vendors participating.

Pam Giueper, marketing director, believes an area increase will attract more people.

"We have increased the size to accommodate all of the vendors that wish to participate," Giueper said. "Last year I had to turn away some of the vendors; this year that shouldn't be a problem, as we are ready to use all of the vendors that want to partake."

Awareness of the event is key however, many students do not know the hours of operation.

"I didn't even know that this event was going on," said Matt Lancaster, senior communications major. "Now that I know, I will go every time they have it to buy fruit. But more people, especially students, need to know."

A downside for some students is the early starting time and 1 p.m. finish. The hours can be a problem for those who are not accustomed to rising early on Saturday mornings.

Some students believe that if the market ran longer, more people would come and the vendors would make more money.

"I don't see any reason why they wouldn't want it to go longer," Brian Grout, senior physical education major said. "They spend all this time setting it up, why not go for at least two more hours? I can honestly say that I won't make it by 1 p.m., but most definitely by 3 p.m."

The market begins on the first Saturday in May and will run every Saturday until October.

The weekly event begins at 9 a.m. and continues until 1 p.m. The market is located around 4th and Pear Streets, next to the Starlight and Wells Fargo Bank.

Mattress flames threaten local home



Alissa Springer/Observer

Firefighters pour water on a burning mattress pulled out of a house on 4th and Maple Street Monday evening. A neighbor, Robert Freeman, smelled smoke and saw it billowing out of the roof and called 911. Firefighters were able to control the fire before there was much damage.

Sheriff, police weed out reefer retailers

by Katie Murdoch
Asst. News editor

A Central Washington University communication major was arrested and booked into the Kittitas County Jail for felony possession of marijuana and two counts of illegal distribution last Wednesday, according to a press release from Sheriff Gene Dana.

Twenty-two-year-old Ricky Taff was arrested and booked into the county jail for allegedly selling marijuana to undercover police officers. Taff is accused of having approximately half a pound of marijuana, estimated to be worth \$1,000, in his apartment. Another sus-

pect will be charged through the prosecutor's office.

The Central Police Department and the Kittitas County Sheriff's Office combined forces, and together, executed a search of Taff's apartment located off Brighton Loop. Police officers seized \$1,400 in cash and \$1,600 in assets in the apartment along with the aforementioned contraband.

"This was a great bust and another example of teamwork between law enforcement agencies. We will continue to share information and work together to fight the war on drugs and make our county a safer place," Dana said.

DRINKING: Underage partying a concern for local residents of both Ellensburg community, Kittitas County.

continued from page 1

Minors consuming alcohol are only part of the problem. The Kittitas Health and Youth Survey of 2006 showed 82 percent of high school seniors thought it was easy to access alcohol. Members of Kittitas County Community Public Health and Safety Network not only want to help enforce underage drinking laws but also catch people who provide alcohol to minors.

"The majority of the time we do not find out who purchases the alcohol for

the minors," said Mike Luvera, Detective Sergeant with the Ellensburg Police Department.

Local law enforcement and health officials want to keep the community informed about how to stay safe and discourage underage drinking, which is a real concern of the community.

Steve Panattoni, a Kittitas County Sheriff administration Sergeant said he wants minors to make good, safe decisions when consuming alcohol.

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OPINION

The
OBSERVER

The editorial views expressed are those of the writers and are not necessarily those of the newspaper staff at large, the student body, the faculty or the administration and are certainly not to be considered as official views of Central Washington University.

Time for action in ASCWU/BOD race

If there was ever a time for action by Central Washington University's student body, the time is now.

The thin field of candidates for the 2007 Associated Student Body of Central Board of Directors

(ASCWU/BOD) has put next year's student body in the position of being represented by an undemocratically elected congregation of their peers. And to be honest, I can't decide what's more appalling: that one of us was immature enough to defecate in a Stephens-Whitney Hall dryer last week, or that hardly any of us were willing to stand up for a chance to lead this university.

To put this spring's "race" in perspective, imagine if only 29 United States Senate seats and 129 House seats were contested in the 2006 midterm elections. (For those who slept through high school civics class, there are 100 seats in the Senate and 435 in the House of Representatives.) The country would cry a collective foul over such a small range of choices. Here at Central, we ought to be doing the same.

The fault of this year's lackluster turnout rests on all our shoulders—from Central's administration, to the current ASCWU/BOD, to Central's student body and even The Observer.

Central's administration has long been failing to promote the ASCWU/BOD. If The Observer's "Central Views" questionnaire (see bottom of page 7) is any indication, most Central students don't even know what the ASCWU/BOD is. That's hardly surprising, though, considering the fact that they're given about as much prominence in freshman orientation packets as the hacky sack club.

The ASCWU/BOD enacted a plan to increase student participation in elections this year and it failed miserably.



Paul Balcerak
Editor-in-Chief

Candidates this year were required to gather 500 signatures in order to run—300 more than last year. The rationale here was that at least every student who signed a candidate's petition would turn out to vote. But 500 votes account for about half of last year's total voter turnout, meaning this year's candidates were basically required to collect all their votes before even running.

The student body's failure ought to be obvious. After all, only 11 percent of students turned out for last year's election. Furthermore, it's out of the student body that we draw candidates for the ASCWU/BOD and they've left us with only one race in which voting will actually matter.

Of course, The Observer isn't blameless, either. As the official newspaper of Central, it's our job to inform the people on the important events of the day. By not adequately publicizing the deadlines and requirements for ASCWU/BOD positions, we fell short of one of our stated principles: to inform the people.

We're all at fault for the meager election before us, but we still have an opportunity to set things right. The deadline for write-in candidates is April 24 at 4 p.m. in SURC room 263. Write-in candidates are still required to gather 500 signatures in order to run, but will have the \$25 application fee waived. Write-ins' names do not appear on the official ballot.

If it weren't for my impending graduation or for my position as editor-in-chief of The Observer, I'd be out gathering signatures right now. But since I can't, I'll gladly sign my name for anyone who wants to take up the cause in my stead, whether I agree with his or her politics or not.

The Greek historian Thucydides once said, "those who stay out of public affairs survive only with the help of other people who take action." Central's student body needs to take those words to heart and keep its collective fate out of the hands of the undemocratically elected few.

THE EXCITEMENT OF THE BOD ELECTIONS!



Illustration by Stein Hansen/Observer

Responsibility needed on campus

I seem to expect too much out of people.

In my fantasy world, I expect people to keep me informed in a timely manner; I expect people to follow through on completing a task they've committed to; I expect people to help out and contribute when trying to accomplish tasks from which they benefit. I expect people to be responsible.

Being responsible is not as simple as I thought. The reality is there have been countless times when I've found myself frustrated and angry because someone fails to communicate important information to me, doesn't follow through on a task they've committed to, or expects things to happen with little or no effort on their part. It is expected that someone else will pick up the slack.



Leah Hafterson
Asst. Photo editor

Newsflash: responsible people can't do everything. If you choose to be irresponsible and it affects no one but yourself, I don't care if you can't meet my expectations.

It's when a person's irresponsibility affects other people that I do care.

When people don't communicate with me, don't follow through on tasks, or expect everyone else to do all the work, I end up doing more work than I should and trying to play catch up, or clean up the resulting mess. Had these people simply been responsible enough to communicate or let someone else commit in the first place, it would have taken less time and been more efficient in the long run.

My plea to those of you who fall under the category of irresponsible is to get your head out of your fantasy world and consider how your actions will affect everyone else.

This irresponsibility doesn't end with college; it carries over into the working world.

I work for a rental yard in the

summer time. Many of the employees seem to hold the view that their jobs revolve around their social lives. They are consistently late and ask to leave early to accomplish things they could just as easily take care of on their own time.

The employees also have a habit of not showing up for work without letting anyone know. When this happens, one to two other people and myself end up attending to all the customers.

During peak hours, there will be a half dozen customers waiting to get their equipment. Had the employees shown up at the time they were committed to, the customers would be out the door much faster and not have to wait around.

I guess it's too much to expect people to grow up, be responsible, and think about someone other than themselves.

On second thought, I shouldn't expect too much out of people. People need to start expecting more out of themselves.

Editor's note: Those who wish to submit an application to become a write-in candidate for this year's ASCWU/BOD election can pick up pertinent documents from the ASCWU/BOD offices in SURC room 236.

Central Transit fails to do its job: prevent DULs

Many people might disregard the \$3 Central Transit fee tacked onto our quarterly tuition and fees; however, those \$3 add up when you apply it to the more than 8,000 students that attend Central Washington University. The estimated \$24,000 a quarter is used to provide a service that doesn't really cater to most students' needs.

With operation hours that don't offer transportation from the bars or other places outside of the transit's route after 1 a.m. on weekends, students are forced to pay for taxis, walk home or worse—drive inebriated when they have already paid for a transportation service.



Megan Hansen
News editor

Nearly 300 alcohol-related driving fatalities occurred in Washington State in 2005, an estimated 39 percent of all car fatalities.

Central Police—whose mission is to "serve the public by furthering a partnership with the university community to protect life, property, prevent crime and resolve problems"—are aiding in the operation of Central Transit. I find it hard to believe they're working to protect life by not offering transportation to students who are drinking and not offering alternative routes to cater to more students who live outside the city.

Furthermore, I find it interesting that the question hasn't been raised, "Why don't students have more say in how the transit runs when they foot the bill?"

More than \$24,000 per quarter goes to the operation of Central Transit from student fees in

addition to \$50,000, which was allocated by the Services and Activities (S&A) Committee in January 2007.

For those of you who aren't familiar with the S&A committee, they allocate S&A funds to various programs on campus from a general pool of student money. So essentially students are paying for the entire operation costs.

Kevin Higgins from Central Police petitioned for money to increase hours of operation to extend earlier in the day and include more vehicles and repairs.

The main concern I have with this proposal is the increasing operation hours earlier in the day. Did Central Transit survey student opinion to find out when and where they wanted the transit to run? The general consensus I get from talking to students is that they'd prefer the transit to run lat-

er in the evenings to offer rides to people who recognize they are unable to drive.

One person I talked to said she felt like students were being punished for being responsible and choosing not to drive under the influence. Because Central Transit only follows specific routes and times, people aren't offered the security of knowing they will have a ride home.

While Central Transit offers a bus-like system to those without vehicles in town, Central Police need to stick to their mission of "protecting life" and address students' well-being and safety.

Students need to recognize the role they could and should have in the operation of Central Transit and speak out on their wants and needs for the service.

Without student support, Central Transit would not be a viable program.

Letters to the Editor

University officials should pay respect to General Mattis

My response is to the April 5, 2007 Observer article "General's visit ignites faculty e-mail frenzy." I am very disappointed in many people who didn't give the General a warm welcome as a soldier of the United States and as a former Central Alum.

I felt very disturbed that a *student* group introduced General Mattis instead of a representative from the university.

My other disappointment is the statements made by Mr. Popovic. Mr. Popovic, you argue that taking pleasure in killing is not a trait you want students to leave this university with.

"If General Mattis said derogatory things about shooting people for fun, forgive him."

~Jack Barry
freshman political science

What about forgiveness, or respecting another person who fought for you when nobody from your side of the aisle had the guts to fight for your right to protest? I don't know if you are familiar with *my* Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, but he said: "If you love only those who love you, what reward is there for that? If you are only kind to your friends, how are you different from anyone else?" (Matthew 5:46-47). If General Mattis said derogatory things about shooting at people for fun, forgive him. If you want a behavior that needs to be concentrated on, it

is underage drinking.

In my opinion, General Mattis was welcomed just as he was when returning from Vietnam. If a distinguished member of the military comes to Central, he should be greeted with respect and honor for fighting for our freedom. He should not be cursed, like Mr. Popovic has done.

I pray that people like Mr. Popovic and the university officials will *not* continue this practice of dishonoring our soldiers.

~Jack Barry
Freshman political science major

Stephens-Whitney vandal condemned by alumnus

In regard to the column in the opinion forum about the "unique vandalism" in Stephens-Whitney, I must say that some people need to learn to grow up. True, this is college. College is a time for people to have some wild fun and be wild from time to time.

My first year here, I lived in Courson Hall. There were people drunk in the halls. One time I saw a person freeze a bee, tie a string around it, revive it and fly it around like a pet. That's harmless fun, but defecating in a dryer pushes things a bit too far.

My guess is these people were in a drunken state when this took place. They might not have been—I wasn't there and I don't know. People who do such things need to think about the people who have to deal with the consequences of their actions. I mean, who really wants to be the one to clean *that* up? It's time for self-reflection for these people and to just grow up. Treat the equipment that other people use with respect. It's not that hard!

Paul A. Hudon
Alumnus, Class of 2006

Ellensburg resident clarifies themes of abortion film

In regards to your editorial that ran in the April 5th edition of The Observer, I wish to illuminate the purpose of the "I Had an Abortion" program, which I facilitated.

"All sides of this debate have a common goal: ensuring that abortion is less prevalent."

~Gina Popovic
Ellensburg resident

The documentary, "I Had an Abortion," features 10 women, ages 21 to 85, telling their abortion experience, and includes both positive and negative stories. One mother of two says that she believes she killed her unborn child; another woman in the movie was fully prepared to give her child up for adoption, but the adoption agency rejected her when they found out the father was an African American. An audience member shared her experience of being tossed out of her church for getting pregnant. The one thing they have in common is the feeling of shame and alienation.

Abortions occur with regularity all across America—whether predominately liberal or conservative, Catholic or Protestant, wealthy or poor, religious or secular. Abortion is so common that there are probably few adults in this country who are not related to, or the friend of, someone who has had an abortion. Approximately one in three American women will have an abortion at some point in their lives.

Creating a safe place to discuss abortion, free of shame and finger-pointing, will not increase the number of abortions, but help us understand why so many women who have had an abortion feel that they had no other choice. Discussions about economic and societal barriers to motherhood will make abortion less necessary without stripping away the rights of women to take responsibility for their future. The answers you seek to the "perennial hot-button issues" will be found in thoroughly analyzing what it is about our society that makes our teen abortion rates higher than those in France, Germany and the Netherlands combined.

All sides of this debate have a common goal: ensuring that abortion is less prevalent. While the details of how to achieve this are debatable, the purpose of the "I Had an Abortion" program wasn't to preach the pro-choice gospel. The program was a call for concerned community members to create a safe place for women to talk about their abortion experiences in the hopes that we not only support the women that have already faced this sometimes tragic choice, but also create solutions for reducing the need for abortion in the future.

~Gina Popovic
Director of Public Affairs,
Planned Parenthood of Central Wash.

Student responds to views on abortion

I am a sophomore here at Central Washington University and I am also pro-choice. I noticed in last week's paper there was an article in the Opinion section entitled "Time to put a stop to abortion in the U.S." I agree that stopping abortion is an excellent plan but it is not going to happen by crimi-

"We should be helping women, not condemning them."

~Jodi Johnson
Central VOX president

nalizing a woman's right to choose.

Everyone on both sides of this incredibly polarizing issue wants the same thing: to dramatically decrease the number of abortions that take place in the United States each year. Instead of pointing fingers at each other and making criminals out of women who are making the hardest decision of their lives, let's make education better and increase the availability of family planning services. We should be helping women, not condemning them.

I was particularly upset by the comment in this article about punishing a woman in the stomach when her partner finds out she's pregnant. Even when used as an extreme example, this is unacceptable. By making facetious comments about domestic violence, the seriousness of this issue is severely undermined. Domestic violence is never acceptable.

With one in every five pregnancies in the United States ending in abortion, this is not an issue that is just going to disappear. As responsible citizens of this country we should be working toward building a supportive environment for women no matter what they choose, be it adoption, abortion, or keeping their baby.

~Jodi Johnson
Central VOX President

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Letters to the editor are encouraged and printed as space allows. Submissions should be no more than 300 words and include the author's name and position at the university, or name and place of residence for non-students. Letters may be edited for length, style, spelling, grammar, taste and potentially litigious elements. Letters that attack people will not be published. E-mail: observer@cwu.edu. Fax: (509) 963-1027. Mail: The Observer c/o Central Washington University, 400 E. University Way, Ellensburg, WA 98926.

Central Voices

What's your opinion of this year's small field of ASCWU/BOD candidates?



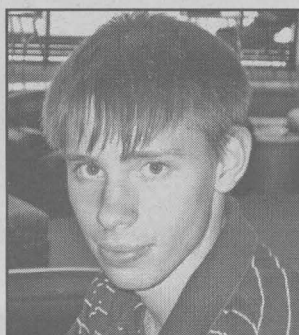
"I'm with the theatre department, so we really don't pay attention to what's going on on campus. I really don't know who's elected or what."

Crystal Love,
Senior theatre major



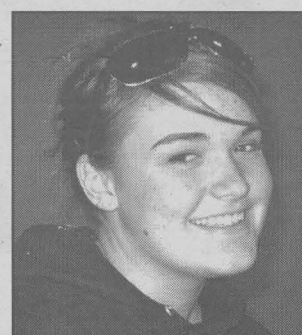
"I would rather have a small pool of highly qualified candidates than a large pool of under qualified candidates."

Natalie Washington,
Junior sociology major



"I just thought [ASCWU/BOD candidates] were trying to get signatures."

Justin Milne,
Freshman undeclared



"I haven't really looked into them at all. I haven't heard much about [the election], so I can't really give an educated opinion."

Elizabeth Lewis,
Freshman undeclared



"We don't even know what's going on."

Rebecca Anderson,
Freshman business major

Jodie Sweetin:
"Full House"
star at Central
tonight.
PAGE 9

Underground:
A small turnout
couldn't stop
lots of music.
PAGE 10

This week in Scene

Trace Bundy:
See a review of
this lightning
fast guitarist.
PAGE 10

John Moawad:
Vocal group
and jazz band
honors.
PAGE 11

The Presidents of the United States of America

*Presidents bring rock
to Central tomorrow night for their second
appearance in Ellensburg for chimpanzee benefit*

by Frank Stanley
Scene editor

It's quite unlikely for a rock band to hit it big with songs involving kitties, being naked and famous, dune buggies, postmen and a lump. Seattle's own *Presidents of the United States of America*, however, thrives on what many would call the nonsensical.

At 8 p.m. tomorrow in the Student Union and Recreational Center Ballroom, the Ballard-based group will play those hits and more, to close out the Diversity Education Center's week-long "Bigger Than Us" social forum.

The forum derives from the World Social Forum and features a number of faculty and guest-speaker lectures, symposium-style workshops, film screenings and book presentations. To tie in the forum with the show, the concert has been promoted to support chimpanzee abuse awareness.

The forum was initially planned for winter quarter, but co-organizers Djordje Popovic and Ashley Grimes saw far more potential in the planning, and postponed the event to spring quarter.

"'Bigger than us' is an intuitive statement, but we don't always act with that knowledge, when you look at the actions we make as an individual or as a group," said Popovic, program coordinator for the Diversity Education Center. "Let's start making decisions with the knowledge of other people and other things, like our history and our future."

Despite being one of the biggest names in music to come to Central, the event has seen limited advertising, as flyers were kept within academic buildings and residence halls as opposed to placing ads in more public buildings. Some students still didn't know who the Presidents were, despite advertisements on college network Web site Facebook.com and plugs on Central's own 88.1 The 'Burg.

According to Popovic, the original advertised venue, the Milo Smith Tower Theatre in McConnell hall, could only support a maximum capacity of 500 students. As the concert neared, however, it was clear that the growing buzz would generate an audience much greater than what the theatre could hold. Thus, a discussion with members of the administration prompted a change in venue.

"The vibe we're getting right now is that there's going to be more than 500 people showing up," Popovic said. "People were talking about it [the concert] before everyone knew what was going on."

Along with the performance, there will be a presentation from Keith LaChappelle, executive director of the Chimpanzee Retirement Sanctuary Northwest. The sanctuary, located between Cle Elum and Ellensburg, is a 26-acre farm dedicated to the housing and care of retired and captive chimpanzees from the entertainment business.

For now, the sanctuary plans to house a group of eight chimpanzees in a small, covered outdoor area, and include a 10,000 square foot outdoor area.

"Many people don't even know that chimpanzees are endangered; they're highly endangered," LaChappelle said. "We really need to end the practice of using chimpanzees in entertainment. The link between ending chimpanzees in entertainment and sanctuary is there is nowhere for them to go



SEE PRESIDENTS, PAGE 10

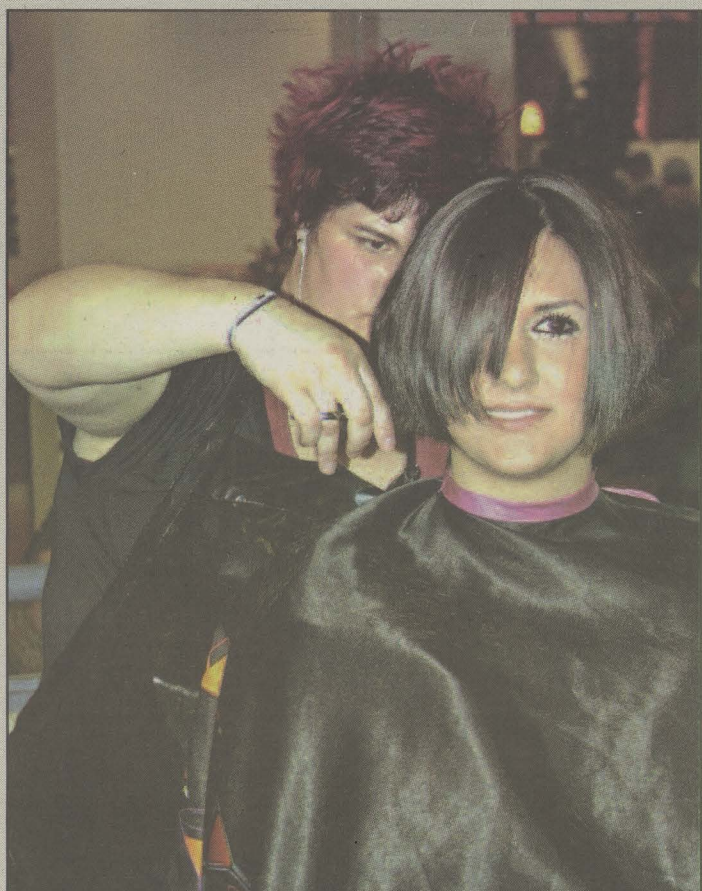


photo by Steve Franich/Observer

Mahsa Jafar, junior public relations major, donated seven inches of hair to Locks of Love last Thursday.

A new 'do for love

by Meagan Lind
Staff reporter

People typically donate money, time and food for charity.

Last Thursday was a different story. A total of 722 inches of hair were cut and collected from volunteers during a Locks of Love charity event.

Locks of Love is a non-profit organization that provides hair-pieces made from real hair for financially disadvantaged children under the age of 18 suffering from long-term medical hair loss.

Alisha Blain, senior public relations major, decided to plan the charity event because she wanted to donate her own hair to a worthy cause.

"I found a group of people who wanted to donate, then got room at the SUB, and the Civic Engagement Center helped plan and budget the event," Blain said.

Blain has been praised by many for her hard work and dedication for bringing the Locks of Love event to Central Washington University.

"There are many people who think she's amazing for putting the event together herself," Holly Belshay, senior family and consumer science major, said. "She has a lot of compassion and she can do anything herself."

The Residence Hall Association allocated \$100 for display boards,

bags for the hair, and postage for mailing the hair to Locks of Love.

Volunteers from the National Residence Hall Honorary helped by signing people in, sorting hair after it had been cut and keeping the event organized.

Anyone willing to cut off their hair was allowed to donate. The only limitations were that the hair couldn't be bleached and needed to be a minimum of six inches in length.

Three student volunteers from Bluestone Academy came to cut ponytails. Bluestone Academy is a school for Cosmetology in downtown Ellensburg.

"I cut off 38 ponytails and there was a range of people from a two-year-old boy to an older woman," said Vanessa Schedeman, Bluestone Academy student.

Central students who are just now hearing about the Locks of Love event still have a chance to donate hair if they missed the event last week.

"We get people that come in [to Bluestone] all the time that want us to cut off their hair so we can mail it in to Locks of Love," Schedeman said.

If anyone is interested, Bluestone Academy will cut hair and mail it out to the foundation.

"The event was very very successful and I am proud of it," Blain said.

Five minutes with...

New 'Burg manager talks business



Nichole Gaertner/Observer

by Erin Black
Staff reporter

Beginning this quarter, Jillian Rood has filled the role of interim station manager at 88.1 The 'Burg. The station has four non-student employees and over 40 student DJs.

Q. How did you become the interim station manager?

A. I was living in Roslyn when I decided to apply for the masters program at Central. I sent my resume in to Chris Hull, the previous manager, and I got the job unexpectedly. It was the most intense interview I've ever been through.

Q. Why did the last manager leave?

A. He didn't leave, he just took a sabbatical. He will be back in July. He went on a mission to Louisiana and is [providing] relief work [for victims of] Hurricane Katrina.

Q. What do you do in this position?

A. I am a specialist in nothing, but I have my hands in everything. I manage the budget, community sponsorships, students and I make sure everyone is on task.

Q. Are you doing anything to change the program?

A. I am not making any broad sweeping policy changes. I want to maintain everything that Chris has done and I want to build on that.

I have noticed that the International students do not really mix in with the rest of the students. I want to bring more international students into the station and maybe have shows in different languages.

Q. What were you doing before you became manager?

A. I graduated from the University of Washington in 2003 with a double major in communication and sociology.

While I was in college, I did an internship at KCTS in Seattle where I mostly transcribed footage.

I was then asked to stay on as the assistant producer on the film "Perfect Illusions," which shed light on eating disorders in the family. The film went on to be nominated for two Emmys.

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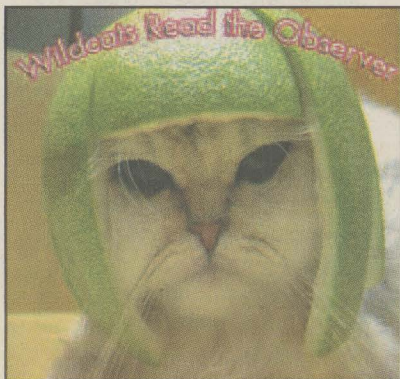
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For information on this quarter's Classic Film Series, see the story on the Observer Web site at: www.cwu.edu/~Observer



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Music festival plays on despite low turnout

by Nichel Burns and Frank Stanley
Staff reporter, Scene editor

Garage Voice, the opening band for the Underground Music Festival, began and ended their set the same way they do with most performances— with a “thank you” to the crowd.

The “crowd,” in this case, would be the applause of less than three or four people sitting at the tables in the back of the Student Union and Recreation Center Ballroom last Friday.

The day-long festival, sponsored by the business fraternity Alpha Kappa Psi (AKP), kicked off the event at 1 p.m. with Garage Voice, audience in hand or not.

Throughout the day, performers had music filling the whole of the Student Union and Recreation Center, yet students wanting to stand in front of the stage needed to pay a five-dollar general admission. Some students preferred to stand outside the ballroom doors and enjoy the music.

“I’ll just enjoy the music out here,” Ian Miller, senior law and justice major, said. Miller was sitting outside the Central Marketplace on the first floor.

Other students were a bit more enthusiastic for the festival, such as senior earth sciences major Rachel Keen. “I’m here to see Star Anna and the Laughing Dogs,” she said.

According to members of AKP, several reasons could be cited for the lack of an audience during the day, including classes taking students away, and students leaving for Easter weekend.

“We did everything we could and considered several times, but this was the only weekend that worked,” Catlin Scott, junior philosophy major, said.

Listeners came and went throughout the afternoon, during which Garage Voice, Cardinal Rule, 7 Years Absence and Flowmotion all performed. Flowmotion, known

throughout the northwest for their eclectic jams and funky sound, closed out their set to the applause of an estimated twenty people, most of which were members of the bands that performed earlier in the day.

Josh Clauson, Flowmotion’s frontman, didn’t seem to really notice the crowd, or lack thereof.

“I think it’s just a really nice day; I mean, I’d rather be outside, too,” Clauson said.

At that point in the festival, the bands made one thing clear: it was about the music, not the audience.

The final three bands — Star Anna and the Laughing Dogs, SlideShow and Mark Pickerel and His Praying Hands — quickly gathered a crowd as the evening settled in. Anna, the local favorite, swooned the audience with her blend of folk, country and Americana. Jillian Rood, interim program manager for 88.1 The ‘Burg, got a kick out of Anna’s set.

“After listening to her, I really need to hear more of her stuff,” Rood said.

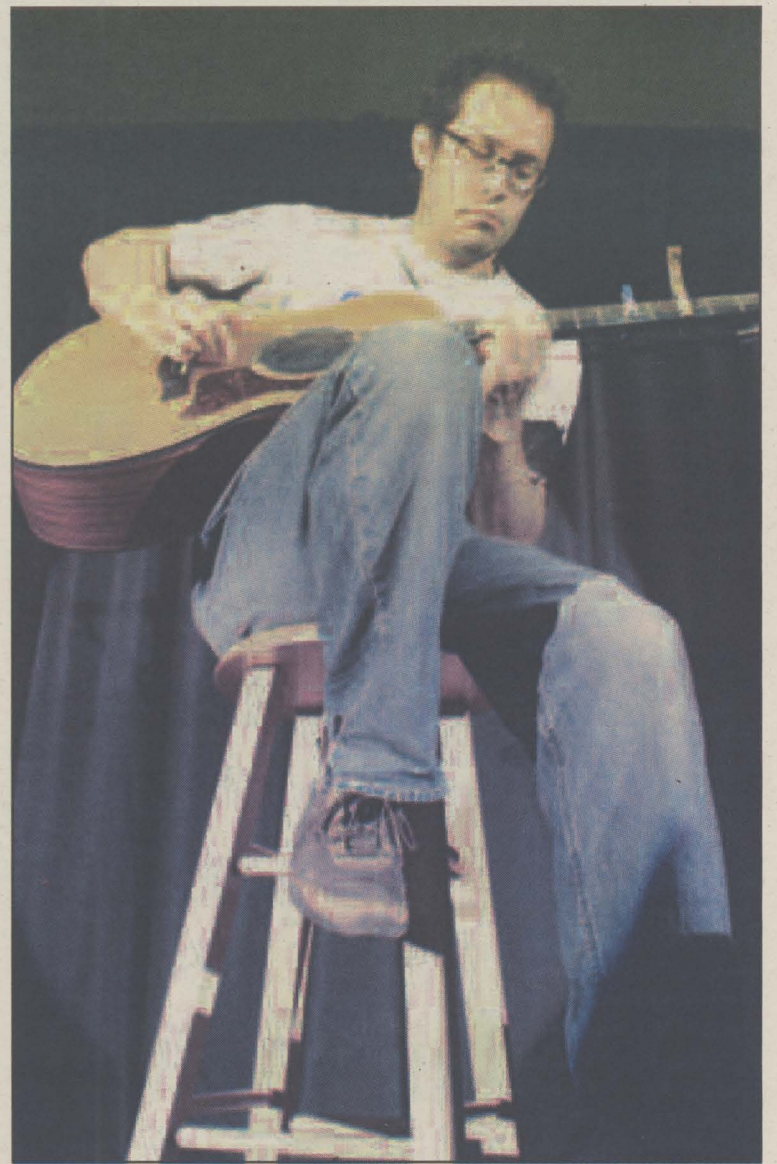
Mark Pickerel, the former drummer for early 90s grunge group *The Screaming Trees* turned frontman for his own group *Mark Pickerel and His Praying Hands*, headlined the festival and brought the largest crowd of the day.

Pickerel thought of performing in Ellensburg as a homecoming for himself.

“So many of my songs are written about life in Ellensburg and thematically, it’s still my home,” Pickerel said.

During the show, Pickerel entertained the crowd and called them closer to the stage, asking that they pull the tables in the back of the ballroom closer. He voiced his disdain for the small crowd, but knew that they weren’t to blame. As with most performers, it’s all about the music.

“I can’t be disappointed with the crowd turnout,” Pickerel said. “In fact, we need to make it an extra special performance for those that made the effort to come out here and support local music.”



Steve Franich/Observer

Trace Bundy dazzles the crowd Tuesday night in the Student Union and Recreation Center Ballroom. Bundy is known for innovative guitar work.

Trace Bundy excites Central crowd with lightning-fast fret work

by Ila Dickenson
Staff reporter

This week, Central Washington University students and local fans got rocked by the sounds of Pachelbel’s Canon, Eminem, and an Irish hymn.

Listeners even got to hear a backwards song about a Bristlecone Pine tree.

On Tuesday night, Ellensburg was visited by a musical genius. Trace Bundy, a master of the acoustic guitar, played for a packed Student Union Ballroom.

From the minute he stepped onto the stage and began introducing his invisible organ accompanist Agnes, jaws were dropping.

“It was amazing. You never hear people play like that,” Felicia Helland, high school senior, said.

With influences like guitarist Phil Keaggy, Trace Bundy is a performer who has become an expert at manipulating electronics to make the sound of a full band all by himself.

He accomplishes these sounds by using recorders, looping devices, and cleverly placed microphones to record all the background layers of a song and then simply plays the harmony on top.

The brilliance of Trace Bundy is lost, however, if you fail to recognize a few simple important components of his concerts.

First, Bundy is a performer and knows how to keep a crowd involved in what he’s doing.

He began the show introducing a song called “Porch Swing.”

Though this song had some set-up and preparation required, Bundy took the downtime to introduce the song and crack jokes about the song.

It just so happened that this song had an organ sounding part to it, which the audience learned came

from his invisible grandmother Agnes, who had her flaws as a performer but Bundy would make sure she didn’t screw up for us.

Agnes turned out to be amazing and deserved the separate applause that she received. Between each song was a time to separate layers of a song, but also be charmed by the man dazzling you with his chords.

Second, Bundy is quite dizzying to watch.

He is quick at picking apart chords, moving clamps and using them to strum, and sometimes plays the fret board completely from the top.

Bundy does his own percussion, which often involves slaps to the guitar and, at one point, he included a looped egg shaker.

A huge part of the experience is watching magic be made through his playing. It made each audience member feel involved in the music-making process and kept us connected.

“I couldn’t believe how fast his fingers were moving,” Sarah Parks, freshman undeclared, said.

Finally, Bundy really knows how to play the instrument. He knows how to make this piece of wood and plastic make any sound that he needed it to.

Bundy utilized every physical aspect of his guitar to make sounds and combinations that many people have never heard before.

He makes the kind of sound that makes you want to play it on great headphones in a dark room by yourself in an attempt to understand and appreciate it the way it deserves.

Trace Bundy is a musical genius with amazing motivation, which is seen in his chords as well as his chit-chat.

“To be able to share and walk away with a smile on their face is cool,” Bundy said after the show.

For more information about Trace Bundy or his work, visit his website at www.tracebundy.com or he invites you to become his friend at www.myspace.com/tracebundy.



Steve Franich/Observer

Mark Pickerel, center, performs with his band, Mark Pickerel and His Praying Hands, last Friday in the Student Union and Recreation Center Ballroom as part of the Underground Music Festival.

PRESIDENTS: Grammy nominated rock group performs during “Bigger than Us” social forum

continued from page 8

now; we have to create a home for them first, and that’s what we’re doing.”

The brainchild of having a show for the chimps’ cause is senior anthropology and primate studies major Tim Held. Held, who is also the vice president of Central’s Wildlife Conservation Club, had the idea of holding a benefit concert. He worked with Grimes, and tomorrow will show the end result.

“It was initially going to be [Seattle alternative band] Harvey Danger,” Held said. “They backed out, and then Ashley mentioned the Presidents and I was like ‘yeah.’”

The Presidents, a post-grunge trio,

started in 1993 with singer and basitar Chris Ballew, guitabass Dave Dederer and drummer Jason Finn. The group exploded onto the Seattle music scene after their self-titled debut album went double platinum with catchy and at times humorous singles including “Lump,” “Back Porch” and “Peaches.”

Other career highlights include the cover of the Buggles’ “Video Killed the Radio Star” on the soundtrack for the movie *The Wedding Singer*, and the single “Cleveland Rocks!” becoming the theme song for “The Drew Carey Show.”

The group broke up temporarily in 1998 to tend to personal matters and side projects, such as the group Subset

with Seattle rapper Sir Mix-a-Lot.

However they released a new album, “Freaked out and Small,” in 2000 to herald their reunion. In 2004, they created their own record label, PUSA Records, and released their most recent album, “Love Everybody.”

With booking the Presidents to perform at Central, the process has been in the works since the middle of fall quarter 2006, Grimes said.

“They [the Presidents] really liked the angle with the chimpanzees,” Popovic said. “With a band this big, this good... This is what college is about; a free concert where all the fans can come, and it doesn’t have to be a really special event.”

APRIL

12 ★ ASCWU/
BOD
Elections:
Primary election
candidate forum, noon,
SURC Pit

★ Campus Life
Speaker: Jodie Sweetin,
"Stephanie Tanner"
from the TV show "Full
House" 7 p.m., SURC
Theatre.

13 ★ Campus Life
Comedy
Presentation:
Pete Johansson
and Dax Jordan,
8 p.m., SURC Theatre.

★ Diversity Center
Concert: "The
Presidents of the United
States of America," 8
p.m., SURC Ballroom.

14 ★ Campus
Life Movie
Night: "Raiders
of the Lost Ark,"
7 p.m., 9 p.m., SURC
Theatre, free.

★ Student Recital:
James Orr, saxophone,
4 p.m., Music Building
Recital Hall.

15 ★ Music
Presentation:
John Moawad
Scholarship
benefit concert, 4 p.m.,
Music Building.
\$35 reserved seating,
\$25 general admission,
\$5 Central students
with ID.

16 ★ Speaker
Gary Nystedt
for Oil
Awareness Week
6-10 p.m.
SURC 137

17 ★ Campus
Life Music
Presentation:
"Soular," 7 p.m.,
SURC pit.

18 ★ Foreign
Language
Film Festival
6:30-11 p.m.
Science Building 101.

★ Spring Speak-outs
11 a.m. — 1 p.m.
SURC 100

Jodie Sweetin expected to pack a 'full house' tonight in SURC Theatre

by Karena Shellman
Staff reporter

"How rude" was her catch phrase as innocent Stephanie Tanner on the family sitcom, "Full House."

But actress Jodie Sweetin is all grown up now and ready to speak about her addiction to crystal methamphetamine at Central Washington University tonight.

"[Jodie] will be primarily talking about her addiction to meth, but she'll also dish about her show too," said Sarah Grant, student programmer for Campus Activities.

Following the end of the "Full House" television series, Sweetin took a break from Hollywood and aspired to be a "normal" teenager.

"It was really hard at age 13," Sweetin said in an interview with Donny Deutsch on The Big Idea in 2005. "I finished the show and started my freshman year of high school. And to have your persona based so heavily on who you were on a television series and then all of a sudden you don't have that anymore ... it's like losing your job and losing your identity."

In 2002, Sweetin married police

"We asked for Jodie because we're the 'Full House' generation."

~Sarah Grant, student
programmer for
Campus Activities

officer Shaun Holguin and, shortly after, began using meth, which led to a nearly two-year drug addiction. Friends and family became worried.

"Everybody knew something was wrong," Sweetin said. "I lost a bunch of weight, I was acting very distant...my lowest weight was 100 pounds."

Still, nobody knew the extremity of the situation.

"In a very short amount of time, it went from experimenting to daily use," Sweetin said in the interview. "The high is you're going, you're on top of the

world... you can do anything. The down is an unbelievable low. I used to say it made me feel hollow."

Sweetin voluntarily checked herself into rehab in 2006 and has been clean and sober ever since.

However, her husband filed for divorce because her addiction put his status as a police officer in jeopardy.

Campus Activities chose Sweetin through Keppler Speakers Agency, a company that offers numerous speakers such as women's soccer star Mia Hamm and Hall of Fame baseball player Cal Ripken Jr.

"We asked for Jodie because we're the 'Full House' generation," Grant said. "She's a celebrity but she's like us; you can relate to her. Jodie is our age, she was young at the time, but we were young too."

Many Central students seem excited to hear Sweetin speak.

"I had no idea [Sweetin] had a meth addiction until I saw the posters around campus," said Rachel Greshock, sophomore history education major. "I think it'll be interesting to see her because she looks really different in a good way. And I want to know how and why she got into meth."

In 2006, Sweetin became the host of Pants-Off Dance-Off, a TV-PG rated dance contest on Fuse TV.

The program features mostly amateur eccydsiasts (a type of striptease or exotic dance) stripping down to their underwear to their favorite music videos.

It's a far cry from the Stephanie Tanner that most students grew up with on television.

"She was great [on 'Full House']," said Brittney Guthmiller, freshman business major. "They had funny jokes and you always learned from the shows."

The event is free but seats are on a first come first serve basis.

"I would tell people to get there early," Grant said. "I'm expecting a pretty big turn-out."

Sweetin will speak at 7 p.m. tonight in the SURC theatre. A reception will be held afterward where students can chat and receive autographs.

Jazzin' up Central the Moawad way

by Tim Kukes
Staff reporter

Central Washington University will be holding the John Moawad Jazz Scholarship Concert, which is the second of a series of performances.

These concerts are fundraising events for the John Moawad Jazz Scholarship Endowment, named for Central professor emeritus of music, John Moawad.

"If you talk about jazz at Central or the Northwest, his name comes up," said Mark Claassen, post-baccalaureate of music performance.

Moawad spent 28 years teaching at Central, from 1970 to 1998, longer than any other jazz professor. In 1984, he received Central's Distinguished Professor Award and in 1998 was inducted into the Washington Music Educator's Hall of Fame.

"Naturally, I am honored that Central would choose to use my name as a way of honoring my creative work," Moawad said.

Chris Bruya, director of jazz studies, said that Moawad's years of dedication to Central made him a natural choice

"The quality of music will continue to grow."

~Mark Claassen
post baccalaureate,
music performance

for the endowment.

"There is a huge legacy of people who studied under him who are now in [higher education]," Bruya said.

Bruya studied under Moawad in the late 70s to mid 80s and was a member of the jazz band.

Bruya said that Moawad's teachings made him feel like he could achieve a higher musical level.

This will be the second of two scholarships that bear the Moawad name. The first is the Moawad Jazz Scholarship, a scholarship for saxophonists, named in honor of Moawad's parents.

"What I wanted to do was honor [Moawad's] legacy before he died," Bruya said.

The scholarship was started by Bruya and Marji Morgan, Dean of Central's College of Arts and Humanities.

The scholarship is intended to benefit jazz studies students in Central's music department. Last year, \$10,000 was raised for the endowment through concert sales and donor contributions, said Catherine Scarlett, operations director for the College of Arts and Humanities.

This year's goal is to add \$10,000 more to the endowment.

"We have some very generous alumni," Scarlett said.

Central started a jazz music degree in fall 2006 and is trying to attract more students.

"When I was a student, Central was one of the few places you could concentrate on jazz ... now everyone has jazz students," Bruya said.

Classen said that scholarships are important to help find and attract students interested in quality jazz.

"We have a great program," Claassen said. "The quality of music will continue to grow."

The concert will take place at 4 p.m. April 15, in the Music Building Concert Hall. General admission is \$25 or \$5 for students with I.D.

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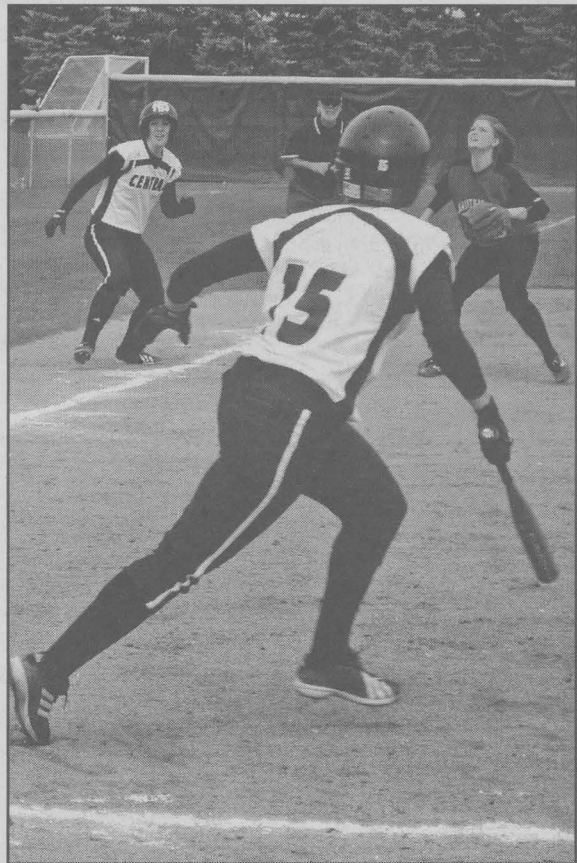
SPORTS

Face-off: Are the M's headed for success or doomed to failure? pg. 13

Junior outfielder leads the Wildcat women on the field. pg. 14

Baseball roars back into life with two wins over the Warriors pg. 15

Wildcats split double header at home



Photos by Alyssa Springer and Kareen Black/Observer

LEFT: Wildcats have no problems hitting as they score seven runs in Game 2, while shutting out the Saint Martin's Saints. **RIGHT:** Saint Martin's baserunner is caught stealing, but the team went on to win 2-3 in a close first game last Saturday. **BOTTOM:** Junior right-hander Sara Badgley makes a nice pitch during last Saturday's double header. Badgley

Central Washington University's softball team had an up-and-down day on Saturday's double-header, losing a well-fought battle 3-2. Katrina Reime had a rough beginning on the mound and gave Saint Martin's the three run lead. Sara Badgley came in for relief in the fourth inning and struck out the next three batters, including one runner who managed to

reach first base on a dropped strike three. She ended the game with a total of nine Ks.

"It felt good to come in and clean up," Badgley said.

The second game was blown away by the Wildcats, who scored at least one run in each inning but one. They cruised by with a victory 7-0.

The Wildcats face Northwest Nazarene University at noon on Saturday at the Central field. On Sunday, the team travels to Bellingham to take on rival Western Washington University. First pitch is scheduled for 1 p.m.

For more information, see the box score on page 16.

TENNIS: Starting a team from scratch

by Tom Mengelos
Staff reporter

AnnElise Anderson, freshman business marketing major, did not want her college career to be without tennis.

After deciding that Central Washington University was the place for her and that Central, consequently, had no tennis program in place. Anderson had been playing tennis at various levels for seven years.

"I really wanted to play college tennis," Anderson said. "I knew Central didn't have a program, so I thought I could start a club."

She contacted Corey Sinclair, coordinator for Sports Clubs and Camps at Central to inquire about starting a new club. She then contacted Mark Toby, regional director for the United States Tennis Association, in the summer and asked which steps needed to be taken to start a tennis

club at Central.

Anderson's story goes to show that when students have a passion for a particular sport or any organization, they have the power to effect change.

"[Many] students don't realize that they can start their own clubs and programs," Toby said. "AnnElise is a great example of what students can do when they have vision, and drive. AnnElise created her own opportunity."

The Tennis Club competes against other club teams in the Northwest, including the University of Washington, Washington State University, Western Washington University and the University of Oregon. The matches are played in a team format with nine matches in all. There are two men's singles matches, two women's singles, two men's and women's doubles matches and one mixed doubles match.

"I thought about trying out for the tennis club when I heard of it, but was hesitant because I've never

played before," Katie Coonan, secondary English education major, said.

However, Anderson encourages students of all levels to come and play.

The Tennis Club doesn't have an acting coach since no faculty member showed interest in coaching the team. Anderson has shouldered the load taking the roles of player, captain, and coach.

The team practices year-round and keeps a relaxed, easy-going attitude.

"Students have commitments and can't always practice or travel with us, and that's understandable," Anderson said.

With the regular season just beginning, the team has a record of three wins and one loss.

The club has three matches remaining: this Saturday March 14 at the University of Oregon, March 20 through the 22 at Washington State University and on May 12 at Linfield College.

"Come play and have fun," Anderson said.

Photo courtesy of AnnElise Anderson

Central's tennis club competes against other clubs in the Northwest, traveling as far as the University of Oregon.



"AnnElise is a great example of what students can do when they have vision and drive."

~Mark Toby
director, United States
Tennis Association

The Weekly Sports Face-Off: A look at the M's

Suit up the Moose.

That's the only thing that's going to pull this team out of the basement. Pencil-in Felix Hernandez for 15-20 wins (if our offense shows up during his starts) and the rest of the starters could have 15-20 wins between them.

This is going to be Ichiro's last season in Seattle unless the team can manage to make some sort of post-season run. And with the extensive moves that the rest of our division makes every year, the Mariners always look lost.

Trading Rafael Soriano and Emiliano Fruto for essentially two senior citizens and an ice cooler did not set up the team for the long haul. Signing Jose Guillen was probably the only halfway decent move the team made.

It also seems like general manager Bill Bavasi and Company signed Jeff Weaver thinking they had signed his younger (and much better) brother. Our Weaver parlayed a couple of good post-season appearances with the Cardinals last year into \$8.3 million Frostys this year. He couldn't even make it out of the third inning in his first start Tuesday. Please, pull a Paul O'Neil and throw the watercoolers in the dugout. Anything to stay off the mound.

Bill Bavasi has to go. There just isn't any way around it. After the 2001 season, he has done nothing but hamstringing the franchise. The long-term signings of Adrian Beltre and Richie Sexson created a couple of albatross anchoring the infield. We spend a first-round draft pick on a star catcher, and then we go out and sign Kenji Johjima. Johjima has been a stud behind the plate, logging more innings than any other catcher and still posting decent numbers hitting 291.

The Tampa Bay Devil Rays have an opening day salary of right around \$24 million. That's

\$82 million less than what we've spent. The only "bargain steals" we've got on the squad are Hernandez at \$420,000 and George "can I jam any more tobacco in my mouth" Sherrill at \$395,000. On the other end of the spectrum we've got Richie Sexson, a decent-fielding first basemen who'll swing at literally anything, for the low "used-car salesmen-esque" price of \$15.5 million.

I love the Mariners, don't get me wrong, and I'll go to any game possible. I remember the first time we made the trek from Longview to Seat-

tle to take in Safeco field. Five innings later, Freddy Garcia had given up 15 runs to the Yankees, and my dad and I were starting to drive back home to keep from yelling at any Mariners employee we could set our sights on. I've watched Rene Rivera launch balls into the outfield because Mike Hargrove won't let him catch more than one game every week, and even then he'll pinch-hit Johjima just to spite him.

Which brings us to Hargrove. He parlayed success at Cleveland into "success" here in Seattle. He routinely leaves pitchers in too long, and refuses to give players any sort of rest (see Johjima). Even Ichiro, our franchise player, obviously needed a day off mid-July last year, and Hargrove penciled him in every day. I know that managers want to be tough and set a good example, but Hargrove routinely looks out-coached. Shades of Tom Coughlin here.

I want the Mariners to succeed, and I'll be the first in line for tickets if they eke into the playoffs.

However, without dumping the terrible contracts we've set up—and our front office and coach—we're going to be mired at the bottom of a winnable conference.

The Mariners may not be as memorable as the "Refuse to Lose" team of 1995, or as fun to watch as the winning team from 2001, but coming off three straight last place finishes in the American League (AL) West, the only place to go from here is up.

General manager Bill Bavasi and manager Mike Hargrove are undoubtedly nervous going into the start of the season. I would be too if my career depended on the fate of a potentially mediocre team.

Unless the Mariners can pull off a great season, Seattle may be in the market for new leadership next winter. But with this year's additions to the bullpen, and with hitting stars like Ichiro Suzuki, the M's may very well be contenders for the top spot in the AL West.

Most important to note is the hard work by the M's on improving the bullpen in the off-season. Acquiring left-hander Horacio Ramirez and right-handers Sean White, Miguel Batista and Chris Reitsma adds promise at the mound.

Re-acquiring left-hander Arthur Rhodes was a bold move by Seattle, but not likely one to regret. Though he's currently on the disabled list, Rhodes brings experience to a once-lacking bullpen and is expected to hold his own.

The M's picked up Brandon Morrow in the first-round 2006 First-Year Players Draft. Straight from the University of California-Berkeley, Morrow brings youth and a much-needed talent at the mound. Still in the minor league rotation, his fastball, grouped with his splitter and slider, may quickly earn him a permanent spot in the Mariners' bullpen.

Dominating on the mound should be youngster Felix Hernandez, though. After his impressive Opening Day performance, the M's may be in for some exciting wins.

The batting line-up also looks decent. The signing of outfielder Jose Guillen adds some power at the plate. The M's 2006 RBI (runs batted in) leader Raul Ibanez should bring in plenty of runs this year as well. If first baseman Richie Sexson can get his game under control and stay consistent, he might even surprise us. He had 107 RBIs in 2006, second to Ibanez with 123.

Joining Guillen, Sexson and Ibanez in the line-up are designated hitter Jose Vidro, third baseman Adrian Beltre, catcher Kenji Johjima, second baseman Jose Lopez and shortstop Yuniesky Betancourt, all of which can do well at the plate. However, Seattle's bats are led by Japanese superstar centerfielder Ichiro Suzuki.

Ichiro is, without question, the most exciting athlete to play for the Emerald City since he was signed in 2001. I'm positive the star hitter will once again be the most entertaining player to watch. He has set records in hits and stolen bases and is a six-time All-Star selection in six years in the major league.

The plate isn't the only place Ichiro shines. He has one of the most impressive arms in the league and is quick on the field, which has earned him six consecutive Gold Glove awards. Unfortunately, we may need to soak it up while we can, because it's possible he won't stick around after his contract is up at the end of the season. With our luck he'll sign with the Yankees, since it seems to be a trend that they eventually pick up our top players.

After last weekend's cancellations in Cleveland due to weather, the current season highlight for the Mariners has been making snow angels at Jacobs Field. But pelting snowballs is (hopefully) behind them, and Mariners fans can look forward to an exciting year with an improved pitching staff and powerful bats.



Patrick Lewis
Sports Editor



Melanie Lockhart
Asst. Sports editor

VS.

'Hawks add more players to nest

by Nolan Teasely
Staff reporter

With free agency winding down and the draft quickly approaching, let's analyze what our beloved Seahawks have done to improve upon last year's misfortunes and second-round exit from the playoffs.

Beginning with special teams, the 'Hawks, according to the uneducated fan, made a bold move in placing the franchise tag on kicker Josh Brown. Although this has only been done one other time in the history of the NFL (Adam Vinatieri) don't underestimate the importance of Brown; without him the Seahawks finish 5-11, and tie for last in their division. Nice move Tim (Ruskell that is, general manager).

A late-round choice of someone able to make plays from that position could be a possibility; fans never know when another Devin Hester is out there. Remember the name Reggie Ball, a converted quarterback out of Georgia Tech, very Seneca Wallace in terms of versatility when he came out of Iowa State.

On the defensive side of the ball Seattle addressed their aching safety issues by signing speedster Deon Grant away from Jacksonville. Although we overpaid him with one of the richest contracts ever given to a safety, the Seattle secondary was constantly victimized by players being out of position. Replacing Michael Boulware will be wily veteran Brian Russell, from the Browns; he's a bargain player price wise, who has the range of a free safety (9 interceptions in 2002) and the sure tackling ability of a linebacker. Ken Hamlin signed with the Cowboys

in free agency, and Boulware has played inconsistently in the safety position.

On the defensive line, the 'Hawks finally got smart and released anti-playmaker Grant Wistrom with veteran Patrick Kerney from the Falcons. Wistrom had one less sack his entire stint with Seattle than Kerney did in 2004. Adding insult to injury was Kerney's sack total last season, shortened by nine games because of injury, surpassed that of Wistrom who started every game for Seattle.


A lot of critics say this signing looks a lot like that of Wistrom four years ago, but comparing the two is like saying the Ray Allen trade for the Sonics is reminiscent of the Vin Baker trade: Allen is a perennial All-Star while Baker is most likely living in a one bedroom apartment attending weekly substance abuse meetings. The line could use more depth, and they'll have to wait until the late second round to make our first pick. A space-eating, run-stopping defensive tackle should be at the top of the list. Think Marcus Thomas who helped Florida win the national title, or Paul Soliai out of Utah, a monster of a man.

The Seahawk offense lacked cohesion on the line and consistency at wide receiver, while Matt Hasselbeck and Shaun Alexander missed a combined ten games. Maurice Morris filled in admirably for Alexander, but no team can really replace a league most-valuable player with a backup and expect great dividends. It will be good to get the two cornerstones of our offense back this year.

SEE HAWKS, PAGE 16


TONITE!!!

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JODIE (STEPHANIE TANNER) SWEETIN TALKS


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Out of Bounds: Saying no to big time sports stadiums

Recent proposals for a new sporting arena in the Seattle area and a NASCAR worthy racetrack in Kitsap County have met opposition in the state legislature.

The city of Seattle has made it impossible for the Seattle Supersonics, the city's oldest sports franchise, to stay in the downtown area with the passing of I-91.

This initiative made public funds unavailable for the construction of a sports facility of any kind. With the Key Arena no longer a viable option, the Sonics had to look to either Bellevue or Renton as a new place to call home.

On Monday, the Professional Basketball Club LLC, owners of the Sonics, bought 21 acres of land in Renton that most thought to be the proposed site for the new arena. This arena could house the Sonics and Storm basketball franchises, a NHL franchise, NCAA Tournament games, Olympic events, concerts and conventions.

"If they are going to leave the city, we want them to know that there's an opportunity here for them to consider," said Alexander Pietch, Renton's economic development administrator.



Curtis Crabtree
Staff reporter

The state legislature will ultimately have to approve any financing plan the arena would need. The majority of city and state officials and King County residents are strongly against it.

According to www.eventscenter-facts.com, this proposal would not result in any new taxes or tax increases. The taxes used to build the Qwest and Safeco Fields would be extended to cover the new stadium. These taxes are targeted toward visitors to the Seattle area on things like rental cars, hotels, motels and restaurants. Restaurant-goers will only notice a 50-cent tax on every \$100 spent. The rest of the funds will come from services provided at the facility.

The battle over the new sports arena isn't the only proposal meeting opposition in the legislature.

Negotiations are ongoing to bring NASCAR to the Northwest. The International Speedway Corporation (ISC) has been dealing with the state since June 2005 to build a new racetrack near Bremerton. The ISC owns 12 tracks used by NASCAR, including Daytona.

SEE STADIUM, PAGE 16

Druffel shines in softball

by Michael Johnson
Staff reporter

Everyone's watching, you're at the plate, determined not to be the latest victim of the slow-pitch softball.

The ball is thrown in the air, only to drop somewhere within the strike zone. The ball is inches away, and it's laughing on its way to the plate. You're salivating at the thought of hitting a home run.

With all your strength, you swing and come up empty. We all know the feeling; your friends are now laughing because you couldn't hit the slow-pitch.

With the success that Kasey Druffel is having on the field this year, one would never guess that the junior from Colton once played slow-pitch softball for a small B-district school.

"I played slow-pitch softball from my freshman to my junior year in high school," Druffel said. "My senior year they switched over to fastpitch."

Druffel had her heart set on going to North Idaho College after high school, but coming from a small B school, coaches rarely recruited from her area.

With little exposure, and one year of fast-pitch experience, Druffel decided to walk onto the fastpitch softball team at North Idaho College.

"It was a little rocky going from slow to fast [pitch]," Druffel said, although she seemed to adjust quickly. "I was the first girl to receive a softball scholarship out of my high school, and the second girl to contribute playing at a four-year."

Druffel originally signed with Albion College of Idaho before receiving a call from the coaches at Central Washington University to play softball.

"I was just looking for a place that was close to home," Druffel said.

Druffel red-shirted last year after shoulder surgery on her throwing arm.

She had surgery in May 2006, and expected a four-to-six month recovery time.

Druffel was back in September, ear-



Kareen Black/Observer

Junior outfielder Kasey Druffel is a top hitter for the Wildcats, batting over .400 this season. She also has a .429 on base percentage.

lier than expected, and participated with the team in the fall.

She dedicated her time to staying longer after practices, hitting more, training and lifting as often as she could.

"I just try to work hard everyday at practice," Druffel said. "I work hard on things I'm not doing right and try and make adjustments. If I feel like I didn't get a good hitting workout or if I was not fielding the ball correctly, I will stay longer after practice."

As the lead-off hitter for the Wildcats, Druffel's job is to get on base, so that the rest of her team can move her around.

Once on base, she can use her speed, which she considers her most valuable asset, to cause opposing pitchers and infielders fits.

Druffel has been productive this year, and says that she is having success because of her teammates.

"There is no 'I' in 'team'," Druffel

"I just try to work hard everyday at practice. I work hard on things I'm not doing right and try and make adjustments."

~Kasey Druffel
junior outfielder

said. "We as a team are successful together."

Druffel's motivation and passion for the game is obvious.

"I have fun [playing]," she said. "And my parents are really proud of what I have done."

Hectic weekend of traveling gives Wildcats opportunity to mark it up

by Mindy Jafek
Staff reporter

The Central Washington University track and field team traveled all over the Northwest last weekend to compete in several invitational.

They competed at the Pelluer Invitational in Cheney, Wash., the Willamette Invitational in Salem, Ore., and the Spring Forward Multi-Events and Ralph Vernacchia Team Classic in Bellingham, Wash.

"Choosing what players go where really depends on past performances," head coach Kevin Adkisson said. "I tried to get everyone out in these first few weeks back so that they have a chance to get some marks."

At the Pelluer Invitational, the men finished strong. Junior Cameron Neel placed second in the men's discus throw with a 48.46m throw. Freshman Matt Valdez claimed sixth with his throw of 42.73m.

Other standout performances included sophomore Evan Ruud's third place finish in the hammer throw with a 55.31m, and junior Michael Ingman's fifth place finish in men's javelin throw.

"We finally got some beautiful nice weather," Trevor Kulvi, junior distance runner, said. "I felt good about the meet and my performance. My only weakness was going out a little bit fast."

The Willamette Invitational hosted teams from all over the nation including



Maggie Schmidt/Observer

Freshman Raquel "Rocky" Gonzalez competes in the shot put. Gonzalez placed third in the women's heptathlon in Bellingham over the weekend.

junior colleges club, Division II, Division III, and NAIA runners. Central's distance runners had fierce competition, but never backed down.

"They had good grouping of distance races," Adkisson said.

Western Washington was host to not one, but two meets this weekend, which Adkisson was excited about. Central has some important conference meets at Western's Civic Stadium. The sprinters and jumpers placed strong in many events. Junior Chelsea Evans placed first in the women's 400 meter

dash, while teammate sophomore Rachael Kaercher took second.

In women's triple jump, freshman Amanda Rose took second with a jump of 10.95m. Also junior Cameron Bailey, who placed first in the triple jump with a distance of 13.42m.

With the success so far, the track and field team's future looks promising. The next few meets will be interesting to see who will be the next standout athlete for Central. The Wildcats host the Spike Arlt Invitational this weekend at Tomlinson Stadium.

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Wildcats get back into the swing of things

by Marqise Allen
Asst. Sports editor

After being comatose for the previous three games, the Wildcats' offense sprang to life on Monday as they dismantled California State Stanislaus.

The Central Washington University baseball team had more hits (28), on Monday in their double header against the Warriors than they did in their previous four games (22). Central head Coach Desi Storey attributed the boost in hitting to the performances of the two starting pitchers.

"We got great outings by Jordan [Moore] and Tyler [Levin]," Storey said. "This gave our hitters a chance to relax."

Not only did the Wildcats hit the ball well, but they got two good games from their pitchers.

Warriors coach Kenny Leonesio said that the pitching complemented the hitting, which made it very difficult for Stanislaus to get ahead.

"It's tough to hit when you're down," Leonesio said. "When we're down by five or six runs, it's easier to pitch. They did a good job; they did what they were supposed to do."

Either way, both facets helped the Wildcats win the two games. In the first game, junior pitcher Jordan Moore threw a complete game, giving up only six hits and two runs, as Central cruised to a 10-3 victory. He said that he was

relaxed and attributed his success to a team effort.

"I just threw strikes for the most part, and let our defense take over," Moore said.

Pitcher Adam Levin had another solid performance, throwing a complete game in the second match up.

But the highlight of the game came off the bat of junior third baseman Dean Tomlinson, who hit a grand slam to right center, bringing the lead to 11 from seven, putting the game out of reach for the Warriors, and helping the Wildcats cruise to a 13-1 win.

"I was just looking for something up, and I was just looking to take it the other way," Tomlinson said. "Couldn't quite hit during the weekend and then everything seemed to click. It felt great."

With their upcoming game on Friday at 1 p.m. against Northwest Nazarene University, who is 16-15 for the season, the team needed to end the losing streak and hopes that the momentum will carry them through the end of the season.

The Wildcats face Northwest Nazarene on Saturday, as well, squaring off at noon. The team heads into this weekend 17-13 overall, but last in the Greater Northwest Athletic Conference Standings. Central sits five games behind division leaders Western Oregon University.

"I hope it jump-starts us, and gets us back on the right track" Storey said.



Alissa Springer/Observer

The Wildcats break out the good wood for a Cal State double header getting 28 hits in two games. Second baseman Tyler Farrington went 3-7 through the two games and drove in 3 RBIs.

The man behind the scorecards

by Michael Petterson
Staff Reporter

In almost every sport, there is one player who rises up and carries the team throughout the game.

This person can be recognized easily with his or her outstanding play and ability, and is known as the most valuable player (MVP).

But what if the MVP was someone who few people ever see, even though he attends most of the Wildcats' varsity games, and is responsible for updating information on the game, stats, and keeping the crowd entertained and under control?

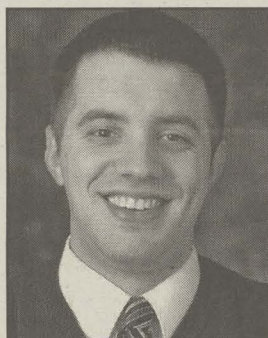
During each game, Jonathan Gordon keeps records and stats for each player. This information is crucial for a number of reasons. First, the information is sent directly to the NCAA for

their daily box scores.

Second, coaches rely on these stats during and after the game to see each player's updated performance from earlier in the game. This information is crucial for an immediate substitution or to make a lineup for the second game of a double header.

Lastly, Gordon creates the "box scores" sheet which is found online and in the papers, and highlights the players and the game.

"He does a good job at what he does with the statistics," said Kelly Roelich, athletic department office assistant. "He is always there for the teams.



Jonathan Gordon
Director athletic
media relations

He has a positive attitude and is a good influence."

Not only is Gordon the director of media relations for the team, but he is also in charge of the public announcement system for the games. In the spring he plays a different song for each batter when they step

up to the plate, which has been selected by the players. He also updates the scoreboard pitch-by-pitch to let everyone in attendance follow along easily.

Gordon, who attended Western Oregon University and interned at Ohio State University, is now the director of

media relations for Central Washington University. He attends almost every varsity game, making a major contribution to the smoothness and accuracy of the game.

"I do anything and everything. If it needs to be done, I am the person who has to take care of it," Gordon said. "You have to be skilled in a lot of areas, and be ready for anything to happen. Drunken fans, rowdy parents and upset fans. It's not easy to calm down a whole crowd."

Gordon spends most of his time during games up in the announcer booth located right above the stands. He isn't often noticed – but is always heard.

If anyone is curious about who is responsible for making the game go smoothly, take a look up and see him behind the protective glass; he could very well be the MVP.

Rugby Playoffs

Central Washington University was eliminated in post-season play last weekend.

Even though they controlled most of the game Friday against the University of California Davis, Central lost 15-8. Inside center Siupeli Sakalia scored Central's only try.

"It was just unfortunate," assistant head coach Tony Pacheco said. "Sometimes you just get unlucky."

Central stomped Stanford University 42-17 in the consolation game.

The team will hold its Alumni game and banquet on May 19.

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